



RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15, 1852.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

We refer our readers to our Legislative columns for the proceedings of this body from Friday to Monday, inclusive.

On Monday last Calvin H. Wiley, Esq., one of the Commoners from Guilford, was elected Superintendent of Common Schools.

On the same day Daniel W. Courts, Esq., was re-elected Treasurer by a handsome majority. Mr. Courts has made one of the very best Treasurers the State has ever had; and his re-election, especially under the circumstances, is a most flattering testimonial on the part of the Assembly to his superior merits as a public officer. The Whigs generally voted for R. G. A. Love, Esq., the Commoner from Haywood.

The two Houses have rescinded the joint agreement to adjourn to-day, the 15th, and have agreed to adjourn on Wednesday next, the 22d. It is possible but not probable that they will be able to get through by that time. No final action has yet been had upon the Senatorial or Congressional Districts, or upon the apportionment of the Commons; and besides there are three Solicitors, a Superior Court Judge, seven Councilors of State, four Trustees of the University, and an Attorney General to elect, to say nothing of the Senator.

No vote has been taken since our last for Senator. The contest will, in all probability, be brought to a close during the present week.

The North Carolina Democrat, printed at Yanceyville, says: "The Legislature has made repeated attempts to elect a United States Senator. Up to this time the Democrats, who have a majority on joint ballot, and are justly entitled to the Senator, have failed to unite on any one. The Hon. James C. Dobbin is the nominee of the Democratic caucus. He is a gentleman every way qualified for the honor, and we think should receive the support of every member of his party. We know, we but echo the wishes of every democrat in this section, when we demand his election at the hands of the Democrats of the Legislature."

[Correspondence of the Fayetteville Carolinian.]

RALEIGH, December 9, 1852.

What has become of the merits and long tried services of H. W. Miller—who is always found a faithful and indefatigable sentinel upon the political watch-tower? Would not this vote have aided him in relieving his mind and recuperating his physical system, so much excited and so much reduced in health by his long and arduous labors? What was Mr. Miller doing whilst Miller and others were traversing the State, exposed to the scorching sun and inclement weather; deprived of domestic association; and last, but not least, spending their money in behalf of their cause? Why he was here in the city of Raleigh giving aid and comfort to our party (the Democrats) by his silence; protecting his fine personage from sun and weather; taking ease and pleasure in the enjoyment of his fine estate. And by the way we have been informed that Miller has considered all these things, and has raged furiously at the conduct of his brother whigs; and has gone so far as to say that if he were a member of the Legislature he would see Rayner and the whig party sunk into perdition before he would vote for him.

Where is Mr. John Kerr, and why is he so neglected by the Whigs of the present Legislature? How is it that Mr. Rayner, who was silent while Kerr was canvassing the State last summer, is now honored by Whig votes for Senator, and Mr. Kerr forgotten? Mr. Miller is not the only gentleman who has been neglected and slighted by his party.

## FRANKLIN INSTITUTE.

We regret to learn that the building of the Franklin Institute, at Cedar Rock, Franklin County, has been destroyed by fire. The loss is some fifteen hundred dollars, and no insurance.

We are gratified to learn that this misfortune has not interrupted the progress of the School. New buildings are to be erected, and in the meantime Mr. Richardson will prosecute his labors in the old Academy building. See his advertisement in another column.

A subscriber writes to us from Alamance County as follows: "I have seen some boasting about large corn in the lower Counties, and I think I can boast a little too. I raised the present season two potatoes, in the same hill, one of which weighed nine pounds and the other three pounds six ounces. Also, a beet that weighed eight pounds—all on Democratic soil."

## CALIFORNIA.

California has voted for Pierce and King by about fifteen thousand majority. About forty thousand votes were polled.

The City of Sacramento, with the exception of a few houses, has been reduced to ashes. Destructive fires had also occurred at San Francisco and Marysville.

Business was active, and good order prevailed.

A Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says: "We are pained to know that Greenough, the American sculptor, has gone crazy. His friends at Newport—as we learn by letter here yesterday—have taken him to the Insane Asylum. The heart is most deeply stirred to see genius like Greenough's running to worse than nothingness."

The nomination of Hon. Edward Everett, as Secretary of State, was on Thursday last unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

The iron on the Weldon and Gaston Rail Road is now being laid on both ends of the Road. It is thought that the cars will be running over the Road by the 1st of March next, at farthest.

We have no hesitation in expressing the opinion, long entertained, that the people are much better qualified to elect public officers than the Legislature.

## FREE SUFFRAGE.

The Fayetteville Carolinian thus notices the rejection of the Free Suffrage bill:

This great measure was lost in the Senate on Friday the 3d instant, lacking one vote of having the necessary majority. The vote stood 33 for and 15 against it. The Constitution requires a vote of two thirds in each House of the General Assembly to effect any amendment in itself. The Senate is composed of 50 members, of which two-thirds amount to 33. The Free Suffrage bill then lacked only 3 votes of getting the constitutional majority requisite. Of course the third of a vote is practically an absurdity. It required 34 votes to carry Free Suffrage.

We confess that we were exceedingly desirous that this measure should pass. But it has been defeated, and what is remarkable, by the want of a single democratic vote. All the democratic members of the Senate voted for it with the exception of Mr. Speaker Edwards, who felt it his duty to withhold his support. "We have no objection to heap upon him for this act. He was an independent member of the Senate, elected upon the ground of opposition to Free Suffrage, which measure he has consistently opposed from the start. But we do regret that the democratic party of the Senate should have elevated to the Speaker's chair one who was a pledged foe to Free Suffrage. That step was no doubt intended to conciliate and harmonize any discord which might have threatened the party, but it was in our judgment one of doubtful policy. Those who do not stand up to the democratic party ought not to be sustained and advanced by that party."

The Tarborough Press says: "The Free Suffrage bill was lost in the Senate by the casting vote of the Speaker. A similar bill has been introduced into the Commons, and we presume will pass both Houses by three-fifths, and thus bring the matter before the next Legislature. It must become a law sooner or later. Though baffled off, it must succeed. And though law may rise above its source, it will not rise above the power wielded by mere politicians to keep it there."

## THOMAS H. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

The Goldsborough New Era closes an article in relation to a Superintendent of Common Schools with the following well-deserved compliment to the gentleman whose name heads this article:

"We are acquainted with but one man who wants it [the office of superintendent,] and with him but slightly, having seen him but twice in our life. But we have seen and read, with pleasure, some articles from his pen on the subject of Common School education. These articles are, in themselves, the best proof that their author has an intimate acquaintance with the different systems of Common School education, as practiced in Europe and in the Northern States, and give to us an earnest that he would make an efficient Superintendent. We allude to Thomas H. Williams, Esq., of New Hanover, whose articles appeared under the signature of 'Long Creek,' first in the Wilmington Journal, then in this paper, and more recently in the Standard. We would be glad to hear that he had received the appointment."

## A MARE'S NEST.

The National Intelligencer of yesterday morning gives a prominent place in its editorial columns to the following extract from the Raleigh Register:

"ON MAN-MAN NON-FRATERNITY. Messrs. Avery, Strange, and other democratic leaders in the North Carolina House of Commons, during the debate on the land resolutions, announced that 'Gen. Pierce would certainly veto a bill to distribute the proceeds of the public lands among the States—that he was expected to do so.' Is the legislation of Congress to be thus forestalled? Were the people of the State told of this by these leaders in the late campaign? Were they apprized of this pledge of General Pierce to shut the door against us when applying for our just rights? What do those who voted for the land resolutions think of this pledge to lead a deaf ear to their just demands on the government? When, since the days of the Stuarts, would the king of England have made such an announcement to the Parliament? Let not the friends of distribution be intimidated by such threats. If he does veto such a bill, locofocoism will have its death blow in this State."

It is possible that the Raleigh Register and the National Intelligencer were ignorant of the fact that the Baltimore platform recognized this very principle, and that General Pierce had sanctioned this platform? The following is the tenth clause of the Baltimore platform:

"10th. Resolved, That the proceeds of the public lands ought to be sacredly applied to the national objects specified in the constitution, and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution of such proceeds among the States, as alike inexpedient in policy and repugnant to the constitution."

And can these whig papers now pretend that the good people of North Carolina were kept in ignorance of Gen. Pierce's views?

UNITED STATES SENATOR. No election of a Senator has yet been effected by our Legislature. The last vote of which we have received any account is that of Monday last, when Hon. K. Rayner, the caucus nominee of the Whig party, received 79 votes. Mr. Dobbin, scattering 81 being necessary to a choice there was no election. Now Mr. Rayner, though a whig, is understood to have played a very lukewarm part in the late Presidential election, and it is not clearly settled that he even voted the whig ticket. Yet the whigs of the Legislature unite by a large majority to elect him, and to elect a man who is so generally understood to be a traitor to his party.

How to keep poor. Buy two glasses of ale every day, at five cents each, amounting in one year to \$36; smoke three cigars, one after each meal, amounting in the course of the year to \$54; keep a big dog, which will consume at least \$15 worth of provisions, and a cat \$5 more. Altogether this amounts to the snug little sum of \$110 75—sufficient to buy six barrels of flour, one barrel of sugar, one sack of coffee, a good coat, a respectable dress, boots a frock for the little baby, and a half dozen pair of shoes—more or less. Just think of it.

RESISTING THE FUGITIVE LAW. A bill has passed through committee of the whole of the Ohio house of delegates, to protect the rights of persons claimed as fugitive slaves. Its provisions are somewhat similar to the famous Fugitive Law. Promising attorneys are to apply for writs of habeas corpus where persons are arrested, and if either party ask, a jury trial shall be allowed, &c. From the manifestations, it is doubtful whether such a bill can finally pass.

PLANK ROAD. We refer our readers to the advertisement in this paper of a dividend of 6 per cent declared by the Fayetteville and Northern Plank Road Company. This company have 8 miles together with Clarendon Bridge (which they purchased in March last) under toll. The dividend is declared from the receipts from the bridge since April 1, and from the Road since Sept. 11.

At the recent election, Gen. Pierce carried the State in which he resides, the State in which John resides, the State in which Scott resides, the State in which Graham resides, the State in which Hale resides, and the State in which Julian resides. Pretty good for an "unknown blue nosed Yankee."

Rockingham Register.

## CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 7th instant, the Rev. C. M. Butler was elected Chaplain. The question of the Kentucky contested election was further debated, but no vote was taken.

In the House of Representatives a brief but interesting discussion took place on a proposition by Mr. Brooks to refer so much of the President's Message as refers to the tariff and revenue from customs to a select committee, which was finally voted down by a vote of seventy-three to ninety-three. In the course of the debate Mr. Clingman said he was willing to take up the whole subject of the tariff, believing that the duties were too high. There was no reason why the Government should have a revenue of fifty millions. He would be satisfied to see the revenue reduced to thirty millions. He repeated, he was in favor of reducing the duties; but when they come to specify in what manner it shall be done, there was difficulty. The gentleman was in favor of taking off the five per cent duty on dyestuffs, and so was he; but he (Mr. C.) was for going a step further. Forty per cent, is too much for farmers to pay on manufactured articles; and the duty on raw wool ought to be reduced; but he was not willing to reduce on the manufactured article. He was opposed to the tariff of 1846 when it was passed. It was too great a sudden reduction; but six years have gone round, and now it is at a point where it ought to become more gradual, and should be reduced in such a way as to impose the least burdens upon the people. His friend would retain the duty on railroad iron, while he believed that the whole country demand a repeal of the duty. While he was gratified that the proposition to reduce customs duties was before the House, and now it is at a point where it ought to become more gradual, and should be reduced in such a way as to impose the least burdens upon the people. His friend would retain the duty on railroad iron, while he believed that the whole country demand a repeal of the duty. 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